

**Highlights of NASA Ames Research Center's Request for Proposal (RFP) for
Space Technology Research and Development (STRAD)
NNA07198991R-ACA**

This RFP is intended to result in the issuance of a Single Award, Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) Cost-Plus-Fixed-Fee (CPFF) contract, with a two-year base period and three one-year priced options. The Government does not intend to acquire a commercial item using FAR Part 12. The NAICS code is 541712 (Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering and Life Sciences (except Biotechnology); Space Vehicles and Guided Missiles, their Propulsion Units, their Propulsion Units Parts, and their Auxiliary Equipment and Parts), with a size standard of 1000.

The ARC phase-in effort will begin at the time of contract award (estimated award date is February 1, 2009).

***Sections B, L, and M have been significantly revised since the Draft RFP.
Please read these sections of the Final RFP carefully.***

SPECIFIC FEATURES OF THIS RFP

1. SECTION B - SUPPLIES OR SERVICES AND PRICE/COSTS

CHANGES FROM DRAFT RFP.

- The Government intends to award STRAD as a CPFF contract.
- Section B clauses have been replaced.
- Maximum amount of supplies or services that may be ordered has been increased to \$45,000,000.
- Item 01, Phase-In includes a fill-in for Phase-In costs. This is the only fill-in required within Section B.

During the performance of the resulting contract, the Government plans to issue task orders with clearly defined objectives, thus avoiding open-ended requirements. This approach will allow the Government to more accurately define the risk and costs associated with each task assignment.

The minimum amount of supplies or services that shall be ordered during the effective period of this contract is \$250,000. The maximum amount of supplies or services that may be ordered for the potential 5 year period of the contract is \$45,000,000.00.

The Government envisions that approximately 5 task orders may be authorized within the first 90 days of the contract; however, the number of task orders could increase based on the Government requirements. A performance-based approach does not require that separate CLINs be established for each task order. Task orders under this contract are expected to vary in complexity, risk, and duration.

2. SECTION C - DESCRIPTION/SPECIFICATION/WORK STATEMENT

CHANGE FROM DRAFT RFP.

- The list of technical and support areas in the Technical Summary of the Requirement in the SOW has been changed. Please read carefully.

The SOW is intentionally written describing the overall scope of STRAD requirements to be accomplished. The task orders will be written in an “outcome/output” manner to allow the successful Contractor to perform the effort on a completion basis. This approach will require greater diligence on the part of the Government, in terms of clearly stating the objectives of each task order and on the Contractor for deciding how to meet the Government’s requirements in a cost effective and timely manner.

3. SECTION D – PACKAGING AND MARKING

No significant features or issues in this section.

4. SECTION E – INSPECTION AND ACCEPTANCE

No significant features or issues in this section.

5. SECTION F – DELIVERIES OR PERFORMANCE

CHANGE FROM DRAFT RFP: NONE

As each task order is issued and authorized, the task requester will identify the delivery date, reporting requirements, cost, and performance objective.

Descriptions, due dates, and distribution for F.5, Delivery of Reports, can be found in Attachment J.1 (a) 2, *Contract Data Requirements List* which has been updated.

6. SECTION G – CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION DATA

CHANGES FROM DRAFT RFP:

- By reference clause 1852.245-76 is clarified to include the fill-in information.
- Clause G.3, *Submission of Vouchers for Payment*, has been revised to reflect NASA Shared Services Center (NSSC) as the payment office.

7. SECTION H - SPECIAL CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

CHANGES FROM DRAFT RFP.

- *Organizational Conflict of Interest, and Limitation of Future Contracting* clause, is revised. Please read carefully.
- *Performance Assessment* clause (See Paragraph H.11) has been added to the contract.
- *Incorporation of the Contractor's Proposal (Offeror Fill In)* (See Paragraph H.12) requires that the Mission Suitability proposal be incorporated in the contract.
- (1) *Management and Protection of Data*; (2) *Handling of Data*; and *Severence Pay* clauses have been added as H.13 through H.15.

8. SECTION I – CONTRACT CLAUSES

(a) *Personal Identity Verification of Contractor Personnel* clause (See Clause I.3) addresses the contractor's compliance with agency personal identity verification procedures identified in the contract that implement Homeland Security Presidential Directive-12 (HSPD-12), Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance M-05-24, and Federal Information Processing Standards Publication (FIPS PUB) Number 201.

CHANGES FROM DRAFT RFP.

- By reference clauses with fill-ins have been completed
- 52.219-28, *Post-Award Small Business Program Rerepresentation (June 2007)*, has been added by reference.

9. SECTION J - LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

CHANGES FROM DRAFT RFP.

- Solicitation attachments in J.1(b) which are not required for proposal preparation have been deleted (the chart in J.1(b) states "Reserved" for those attachments no longer included).

10. SECTION K - REPRESENTATIONS, CERTIFICATIONS, AND OTHER STATEMENTS OF OFFERORS

CHANGES FROM DRAFT RFP.

- Clause K.3, *Use of Government-Owned Property (NFS 1852.245-79)*(Deviation) has been added to Section K.

SECTION L - INSTRUCTIONS, CONDITIONS, AND NOTICES TO OFFERORS

(a) FAR 52.215-1, *Instructions to Offerors-Competitive Acquisition*, ensures that offerors are aware that the Government intends to evaluate proposals and award a contract without discussions with offerors (except clarifications as described in FAR 15.306(a)), unless the Contracting Officer determines that discussions are necessary. Therefore, the offeror's initial proposal should contain the offeror's best terms from a cost or price and technical standpoint. The Government reserves the right to conduct discussions if the Contracting Officer later determines them to be necessary. The Government seeks to maximize the quality of the offeror's initial proposal, improve the efficiency of the selection process, and reduce lead-time.

(b) For purposes of proposal submission, an Other Direct Costs (ODCs) chart is provided for use in the offeror's cost proposal. These amounts represent the Government's current best estimate of the contract requirements.

CHANGES FROM DRAFT RFP.

- Provision L.2, *Type of Contract*, has been completed to reflect the Government's intention to award a Single Award, Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ), Cost-Plus-Fixed-Fee (CPFF) contract.
- As the *PreProposal/Pre-Bid Conference* (Provision L.4) was held April 1, 2008, the link for information provided at that time is included.
- The page limitation for Volume II, Past Performance, shown in Provision L.5, *Proposal Page Limitations*, has been increased to 25.
- Attachment J.1(b)24, Sample Tasks, are consolidated and listed under Management Approach. There are 5 sample tasks within this attachment.
- Offerors are advised to review the specific proposal preparation instructions found at Provision L.9, *Proposal Preparation—Specific Instructions*, carefully, and propose as required.
 - Mission Suitability (Volume I)
 - Consists solely of a written proposal and the requirements have been changed and realigned. Provision L.8 is now "Reserved."

- The offeror shall include an Organizational Conflicts of Interest Avoidance Plan with its proposal as required in the Management Approach Subfactor of Mission Suitability.
- Volume II, Past Performance: Under the Past Performance Proposal Volume II a change has been made to state: A list of relevant contracts, each in excess of \$1M, received in the past five (5) years or currently in negotiation, involving types of related effort. These contracts shall demonstrate the Offeror's capabilities to perform this requirement. Include the contract numbers; Government agency or industry placing the contract; Contracting Officer, telephone number, and email address; and a brief description of Offeror's part of the work and the total dollar value of the Offeror's portion. Industry contracts involving subcontracting to another company that may have a prime contract with some area of the government are acceptable.
- Volume III, Cost:
 - Due to the nature of the research and development work to be performed under this contract, the Government cannot pre-specify all of the task orders to be performed. Cost proposal exhibits have been changed as noted in prior sections. Offerors are advised to review this section carefully and propose as required.
 - Offerors shall use the Cost matrices in Section J.1(b) 3. This will provide the government with a standard cost model to be used to compare proposals based on the Government Labor Estimate (Including Pricing Model Staffing Plan, and Skill Level Definitions) included as Attachment J.1(b)1. NOTE: There is no Exhibit 5 in the cost matrix.
 - The cost model is for evaluation purposes only and the actual number of individuals needed in the various labor categories will be determined upon negotiation of individual task orders following contract award.
 - The completed matrices will be included by reference in the contract as J.1(a)5.
 - DCAA submission is no longer required.
- The tables in Provision L.10, *List of Available Government Property (Deviation)*, have been completed.

12. SECTION M – EVALUATION FACTORS AND AWARD

CHANGE FROM DRAFT RFP.

- As noted in Section L, the Mission Suitability (Volume I) now consists solely of a written proposal.
- The Mission Suitability evaluation approach outlined in paragraph M.2, *Evaluation Approach* have been changed and realigned. Offerors are advised to review this section carefully.
- Provision M.3, *Weighting and Scoring*, has been completed to reflect the Assigned Weight for each Subfactor in Mission Suitability.

CONCLUSION

This concludes the Highlights for the STRAD RFP. At this time, the “Blackout” period has started. All communications must be addressed to the Contracting Officer. Any questions should be submitted in writing to the Contracting Officer. Mail questions to the address below, email them to Lana.Jones.Clemon@nasa.gov, or fax them to 650-604-0912.

NASA Ames Research Center
Attn: Lana Jones Clemon
Code JAC; M/S 241-1
Re: NNA07198991R-ACA
Moffett Field, CA 94035-1000

As a final note, the information provided in these highlights is not intended to be construed differently from the information in the RFP. Should an apparent conflict in interpretation exist, the information in the RFP should be considered to take precedence.